

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 14, and claim 14 is canceled.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for finding that claims 13 and 14 contain allowable subject matter. Applicant has amended independent claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of claim 14. Applicant therefore respectfully submits that all claims 1-13 are in a condition for allowance.

II. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Office Action rejects claims 1-7, 9 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,597,413 ("Kurashina") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,577,371 ("Hirabayashi"), U.S. Patent No. 6,678,017 ("Shimomaki") and U.S. Patent No. 6,777,973 ("Morishita").

The Office Action rejects claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kurashina in view of Hirabayashi, Shimomaki, Morishita and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2006/0102903 ("Kim").

The Office Action rejects claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kurashina in view of Hirabayashi, Shimomaki, Morishita and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0202800 ("Matsushima")

The Office Action rejects claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kurashina in view of Hirabayashi, Shimomaki, Morishita and U.S. Patent No. 6,480,244 ("Murade").

Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of claim 14, which is not rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that all claims 1-13 are in a condition for allowance.

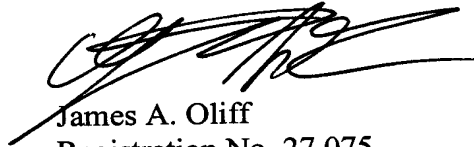
Withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-13 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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